

Mass Intentions: April 17-23, 2021

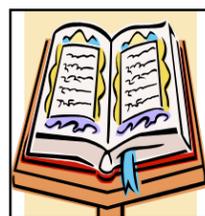
Sat. April 17	6 p.m.	Birthday blessings for Patricia Jean Baptiste requested by her family; & for Maggie Metor for God's healing and protection requested by Colleen Victorin
Sun. April 18	7:30 a.m.	In loving memory of Alma Staffels requested by Gail & Scott Killian; and for Marvelyn Jules for God's blessings, healing & deliverance
	9:30 a.m.	In loving memory of Hugo Douglas Jr. requested by Maxine Nunez
	12:30 p.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Tue. April 20	6 p.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Wed. April 21	6 p.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Thu. April 22	7 a.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Fri. April 23	7 a.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE

Offer a Mass for your loved ones. Call the office at 776-6339.



With the increase of homeless persons on St. John, OLMC in March 2020 opened a shelter to meet this growing need. Since then, we have housed 7 men. At present, 6 men are housed there. We are asking for your help prayerfully and financially. If you would like to make a donation, make checks payable to:
 * OLMC and mail to P.O. Box 241, St. John, VI 00831; memo: OLMC Shelter
 * PayPal: Our Lady of Mount Carmel (olmc@hotmail.com)
 * Online giving: www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1390

Daily Readings



Monday: April 19
Acts 6:8-15
Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: April 20
Acts 7:51--8:1a
Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: April 21
Acts 8:1b-8
Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: April 22
Acts 8:26-40
Jn 6:44-51

Friday: April 23
Acts 9:1-20
Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: April 24
Acts 9:31-42
Jn 6:60-69

Sunday: April 25
Acts 4:8-12
1 Jn 3:1-2
Jn 10:11-18

Stewardship of Treasure

April 10	6 p.m.	\$434.00
April 11	7:30 a.m.	\$717.00
	9:30 a.m.	\$1,694.00
	12:30 p.m.	\$139.00

If you would like to donate the SANCTUARY CANDLE or ALTAR FLOWERS in memory of someone or in celebration of a special occasion, please call the office and schedule a date. A free will donation is welcome.

Simply delicious: 1st Youth Group Cook-off



OLMC Youth Group held a cook-off on Monday, April 11, 2021. The first team was comprised of Kitori Thomas, Jacori Laurencin and Liandra Dagou; and the second team, RayNesha Noel, Naheem Modeste, Linique Dagou and Gleidy Castillo Caraballo. The teams prepared a three-course meal and drinks. Bon Appetit!

OLMC Member Birthdays April 17-23

- Amaya Abraham April 17
- Patricia Jean Baptiste April 17
- Josephine Edward April 19
- Cheryl Boynes-Jackson April 19

If your birthday is not listed, call the office at 776-6339.

~ WISHLIST ~

- Gospel book cover - \$2,295.00
- Coral Bay office - \$7,979.00

Parish Announcements

TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS, IN LIGHT OF THIS CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, PLEASE STAY SAFE. MY PRAYERS ARE WITH ALL OF YOU. GOD BLESS YOU.

Continue to pray for the members of our body who are sick or suffering both on and off island. May we keep them in our hearts and in our minds. The names of the sick are posted on the bulletin board in the back of the church.

- **CONDOLENCES:** OLMC extends condolences to Rufus Verdant & family on the passing of his sister, Mary Verdant Roche.
- **ITEMS NEEDED:** OLMC will hold an online auction to raise funds to build St. Therese Chapel. We are seeking any service such as villa rentals, hotel stays, spa services, sunset sails, day sails, etc. to auction. If you would like to donate, call the church office at 340-776-6339.
- **SCHOLARSHIP:** The Young Adult Group is raising funds for the Ronald Lee Jr. Scholarship. This year, we have three graduates in our parish who have been accepted to many universities and colleges including Hofstra University, St. Bonaventure University, Roanoke College, Marywood University, Radford University, Iowa State University, Purdue University and Drexel University. All donations can be sent to OLMC with memo: Scholarship Fund.
- **RENTAL ASSISTANCE:** V.I. Housing Finance Authority has opened its Emergency Rental Assistance Program to assist residents with their rent. Applications are available at the back of the church. For information, contact VIHFA at 340-777-4432 or Catholic Charities on St. Thomas at 340-777-8518.



Our Lady of Mount Carmel has purchased land in Coral Bay to build this chapel, which will be named, St. Therese. We need your financial support to make this a reality.

To make a donation,

- * Make checks payable to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, P.O. Box 241, St. John, VI 00831; memo line: Coral Bay Chapel.
- * PayPal: Our Lady of Mount Carmel (olmc@hotmail.com)
- * Online giving: www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1390

Donations are tax-deductible.

'Keeping it Real: The Real Presence'

By Adeline Jean

The Mass readings of this Third Sunday of Easter highlights the transformative power of the real presence of Jesus in our lives.

In Gospel Reading (Luke 24: 35-48) we meet the disciples when they had reached Jerusalem. In Jerusalem, they described how "Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread" as they journeyed to Emmaus and how "he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures." They arrived there after turning back from their journey to Emmaus due to Jesus' urgings that they return to Jerusalem. The disciples had run away from Jerusalem after Jesus' crucifixion because of fear of the Jews. They had just witnessed the unthinkable happen to Jesus. They must have felt that the same could happen to them because they were His followers. They were now heading to Emmaus, a market town, suggesting that as they had lost physical sight and connection with Jesus, they were returning to normal life.

As they were distanced from Jesus, they appear to have lost hope and to be fearful. The same happens to believers when we take our eyes off of Jesus and stop communicating with Him. We forget about the beauty of being in a relationship with Him. We no longer enjoy the security of being in His company, of His consoling words, of His friendship. However, when we draw close to Jesus by spending time reading and contemplating His Word and through sitting at the table of the Eucharist, receiving His Body and Blood either sacramentally or spiritually, we are able to encounter Him as the living Jesus, as the disciples did on the road to Emmaus. We are able to hear Jesus' very words and the words of those who were able to experience Him and to document their experiences in the words that have become scripture. Jesus likewise becomes someone we recognize with new eyes — as someone we can touch, as someone we can invite into our everyday activities. We see Jesus as who He really is to us — brother, friend, and Savior.

We also come into His real presence through prayer and reflection and by filling our entire being with things and people that reflect Him — the materials we read, the entertainment we engage in, the friends we choose. Experiencing the real presence of Jesus means inviting Him into our every daily activity. There is no longer church time, family time, personal time, or fun time. All time becomes Jesus' time. He becomes the center of all of our activities. Because He takes center stage, everything else must fit around Him. This is quite the opposite of the attitude of many Christians who attempt to fit Jesus around their plans, schedules, and events. Similarly, every decision we make must be made with our Christian values and faith at the forefront. This does not mean living in a bubble not cognizant to the realities of the world around us. We have to live in the world yet not be of the world. We have to recognize God speaking to us, calling to us to serve, and guiding our actions in accordance to His will and in relation to what we believe, while, at the same time, recognizing that He's expecting us not to be judge and jury of the world. Moreover, from the Second Reading (1 John 2:1-5) we learn that "the way we may be sure that we know him is to keep his commandments." Encountering the real presence of Jesus in our lives must change us — we must come to detest and to avoid sin, and, at the same time, live according to God's laws.

In the First Reading (Acts 3:13-15, 17-19) Peter is speaking to the people after he and John, through faith, were used as instruments of healing of the crippled man outside the Jerusalem Temple. Here we see the disciples no longer timid and afraid but bold and confident in the power of the name of Jesus. They have experienced the post resurrection presence of Jesus in His appearances to them, as well as the very presence of God within through the power of the Holy Spirit they received at Pentecost. The power of the Spirit not only allowed them to use the name of Jesus with faith to bring about healing but to also speak the truth without fear. They confronted the people and those who put Jesus to death saying, "The author of life you put to death... Now I know, brothers, that you acted out of ignorance, just as your leaders did." At the same time, guided by the Spirit, a Spirit of Truth, they are able to forgive those who were responsible for Jesus' death. They recognized that they acted out of ignorance, not being able to recognize Jesus for who He was, the Son of God, God made flesh. They concluded that the actions of these people were necessary because this was the will of God. Those who walk closely in the presence of the Lord and are consumed by His Holy Spirit are able to recognize God's will and His work even in the most difficult or devastating situations, at those times when the human power to understand and to forgive seem impossible.

Prayer: O LORD, let the light of your countenance shine upon us! Amen. (Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 4)



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Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Established: July 16, 1962

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The Third Sunday of Easter • Year B • April 17-18, 2021



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Pastor: Father Anthony Abraham
Administrative Assistant: Simonia Dagou
Rel. Ed. Coordinators: Julia Mingo & Jessica Schnell
Parish Council President: Michael Jackson Sr.
Deacons: Evans Doway, Peter C. Laurencin, Cassius Mathurin & Michael Jackson Sr.
Acolyte: Hayden Smith
Youth Group President: Kitori Thomas
Young Adults President: Shanekua Tyrell



Rev. Fr. Anthony Abraham, Pastor

Hours

The Church is open
Mondays - Fridays: 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Saturdays: 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Sundays: 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Office Hours
Mondays - Fridays: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Pastor's Hours
Tuesdays to Fridays: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Call to set up an appointment



Simonia Dagou
Administrative Assistant

Masses

Weekend
Saturdays: 6 p.m.
Sundays: 7:30 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
12:30 p.m. (Coral Bay)

Weekday
Tuesdays at 6 p.m. (CORAL BAY)
Wednesdays at 6 p.m.
Thursdays & Fridays at 7 a.m.



Deacon Peter C. Laurencin
Stationed: Holy Family

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration
Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays at 5 p.m.; after Masses; or by appointment

Deacon Michael Jackson Sr.
OLMC Project Manager

Week in Preview

Youth Ministry:
Mondays at 5 p.m.

Music Ministry:
Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Charismatic Prayer Group:
Thursdays from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.



Digna Doway
Case Manager, St. John Catholic Charities



Deacon Cassius Mathurin
Stationed: Cathedral

"TOGETHER BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD"